

# the KALIFORSKI

Since 1979

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## NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

P.O. Box 226, Watsonville, California 95077

(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS, & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

No. 100 Oct. 1987

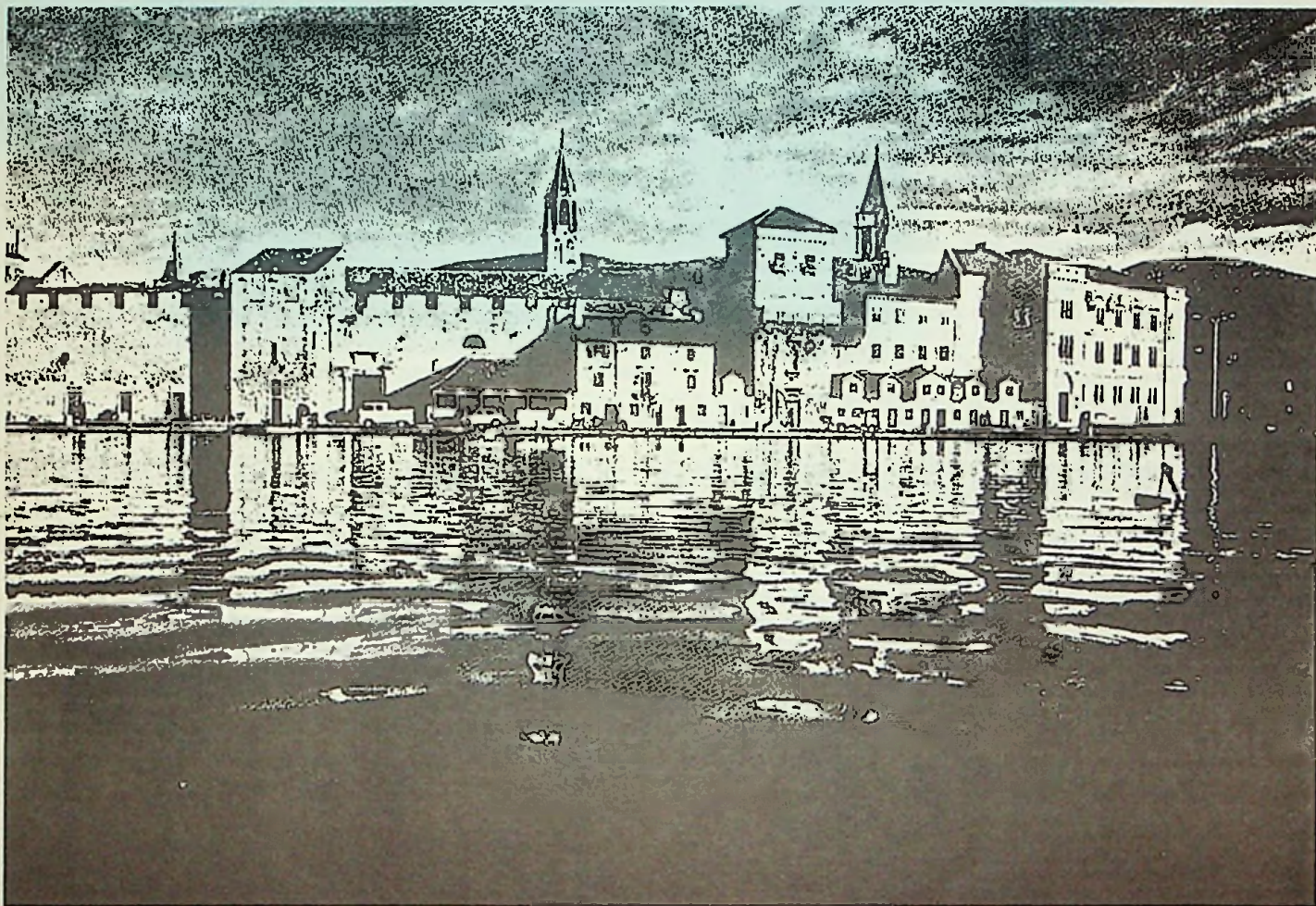
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Contact at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, California 95076

(408) 724-2900

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*CONTEST — The first person to identify this Yugoslavian town wins a free ticket to our next YACO dinner.  
Send your answer to "Kalifornski Kontest," 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076*

Winner of last month's "Kalifornski Kontest" — Prof. Francis Violich — not only correctly identified the town of RAB, but provided us with sketches the Professor did during a trip there in 1981. The sketches plus Professor Violich's note and other information about the town of Rab will be found on page 7 of this issue of the Kalifornski.

*(Remember — our picture sources are always available in the special Yugoslavian section of the Watsonville Library.)*



# Quick Bits

by Sneaky Pete

**DUBROVNIK/Kalifornski** — Boy, some people will do anything to be sure they don't miss an issue of this publication! Turns out Barney Radovich was visiting in Dubrovnik a few months ago when his niece's father-in-law received a copy of the Kalifornski from relatives in Watsonville. In the letter accompanying the Kalifornski there was reference to the Miramar's Anniversary Party, which Barney was able to expand upon since he had been here for the event. As the person in Dubrovnik said in his letter to his Watsonville relative, "The world is small!"

**THIS YEAR'S NON-YUGOFEST** — Sad to say, as you undoubtedly already know, the YugoFest for this year was cancelled due to lack of interest on the part of our members . . . Sure, we got interest from outside YACO, but let's face it — we're not going to have outsiders do the work needed to put on such an event . . . especially since the whole idea has been to share and promote our Yugoslav culture. Sure hope we have some of you who should care offer to help NEXT year . . . or our YugoFest may (like "Old Soldiers") just "fade away."

**WATSONVILLE DAYS / APPLE ANNUAL** — Well, no YugoFest, but we still have a chance to show that YACO can take an active role in local events! This year what has been known variously as the Apple Annual and the Harvest Festival is now part of what is being called "Watsonville Days." And YACO will have its popular Kabasica booth at the Bazaar at Callaghan Park on September 27th. (That's only a few days from now!) So be sure to support our efforts and stop by for a great taste of a great . . . supper delicious . . . scrumptious . . . yummie . . . (well, you get the idea) kabasica sandwich. And as a fundraiser it helps our group!

**LA PAPA / THE POPE** — Probably the hottest item in local news recently was that the Pope dropped by a few days ago. Now, since some people really bite down hard on the idea that YACO and the Kalifornski are very NON-religious (as well as non-profit & non-political), I'll only mention that the head of State for the tiny City-State known as the Vatican was in the area last week and several YACO members (along with tens of thousands of non-YACO members) went to Laguna Seca for a peek at him. In fact, as was reported in the Register-Pajaronian, several YACO members in the St. Patrick's Church Choir and Harmonija performed during the Laguna Seca event. And if I had more room and more time, I'd tell you all about it . . . but obviously I've run out of both! So till next time — I is Sneaky

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# THANKS

Dear Members of YACO,

On behalf of the Board of Library Trustees, I would like to thank you for donating The Treasures of Yugoslavia to the Library. It is a marvelous book, and we are so pleased to have it for our collection.

Thank you so much for thinking of the Library.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Seely Sumpf  
Library Director



Yugoslav - American Cultural Organization

Thank You.

Thank you for selecting me to receive your Scholarship.

David Franich



Dear YACO members,

I would just like to say thank you for being selected as the recipient of your 1987 YACO Scholarship.

I appreciate the honor, and I assure you that the money will be put to good use next school year, while I am attending Loyola Marymount.

Thanks again,  
Philip Clark



Hospice Caring Project  
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# Potpourri

Presented as submitted by  
BABE BRAUTOVICH HILL

Well, happy september, it's only two weeks to apple festival time, and YACO will have a booth, and a car in the parade I think. I sure hope all of you can come to the bazaar, this will be my seventh one (to chair) in six years. We expect between 3&5 thousand people, I'll believe it when I see it, come anyway, ok? [Editor's Note: — the apple festival was two weeks away when Babe wrote this column — by the time you get this the bazaar will be only a couple of days away — Don't miss it! Stop by the YACO booth and say hi!] . . . Aug. 21 was YACO night (I mean Slav night) at the YLI shindig, just to name a few who were there; Lukrich, Osorio, Gospodnetich, Solano, Burdick, Resetar, Deretich, Soldo, Bremis, Franusich, Radovich, Gulermovich, Butier, Zupan, Miljas, Ostojic, Gluhaich with special thanks to Sophie, Lucich, Steazicich, Jones, Backovich, Fiorovich, Buak, Derpich, Heebner, Pilo, Matulich . . . If you want to read some Watsonville history pick up the sept. 8 issue of the Woman's World magazine, it's very interesting . . . sept. meeting brought out very few, but some issues were discussed, the nominating committee will be named at the Oct. meeting, Jerry Gospodnetich will chair the parade entry, Andy Gulermovich will show a VCR on Yugoslavia at the Oct. meeting . . . Don't forget the Tam. Festival in San Jose at the Hyatt House on the 8, 9 & 10th of October. Plan on attending, we went the last time it was in San Jose, For music, culture, and 99/100 pure Yugoslav you can't beat it . . . The Yugo/Fest we had to cancel was in your last 3A Motorland, I received a phone call from Anna Lapeyre in Merced for info. I will send her a Kalifornski, Thanks for calling, Anna . . . Don't forget to call me for your Xmas reservations, my first call was from Tony Matulich from the mother lode area . . . I just talked to Amanda Selak, Daughter of Mitch and Marian, and Grand daughter of John and Luce Selak, we have in our midst an equestrienne, Amanda is only 9 yrs old, she rode in King City recently, she is the PEEWEE State Champ, has won 3 belt buckles and 4 awards, Amanda rides in the Gym-Kana she has a horse named Kit that she loves dearly, a filly named Sundancer and last but not least a donky named Jessica, maybe Amanda will show some of her awards at our Oct. 4th meeting, We are all very proud of you Amanda Selak, keep up the good work . . . Good thoughts and Positive Energies go out to Mary Gizdich and our very own Kalifornski Editor Dale Skillicorn . . . Familiar names and faces; George & Joan Jurickovich, Naida Nicholas, John and Luce Selak (many thanks Luce), Edith Knowles, Jerry & Carole Gospodnetich, and Andy Gulermovich . . .

toodle . . . ooo

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Bob Zlendich





# VESELI SELJACI NEWS

by Nancy Bjeletich

THIS IS IT!! October is here and the 1987 Tamburitza Extravaganza will open its doors at the San Jose Hyatt to welcome a nation of conventioners — tambura lovers from all over the country. We anticipate a crowd of over 2,000 who will come to enjoy non-stop music from Thursday through Sunday, October 8-11.

Because there are so many out-of-towners who are arriving early, a Wednesday night social will be held at the Taylor Street Bar & Grill, the old Foghorn, from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. Another pre-kickoff gathering will take place at Gelco's in San Francisco on Wednesday night, so those who want to enjoy the weekend early — come join us!

Thursday night the official welcome dance will begin at the Hyatt at 8:30 p.m. It promises to be the biggest welcome dance in Extravaganza history. Early in the day, beginning at 12:00 p.m., there will be afternoon socializing around the pool. Registration booths will be open and souvenirs will be available for sale.

## 1987 Tamburitza Extravaganza Events are:

Thursday, Oct. 8th — 8:30 p.m.

Welcome Social Dance ..... \$ 8.00

Friday, Oct. 9th — 7:00 p.m.

Concert I/Dance/Entertainment rooms ... \$20.00

Dance/Entertainment rooms only ..... \$10.00

Saturday, Oct. 10th

Concert II — 1:00 p.m. .... \$10.00

\*\* Hall of Fame Banquet — 6:30 p.m. .... \$30.00

Dance/Entertainment rooms ..... \$10.00

Souvenir Program Book ..... \$ 2.00

\*\* Banquet tickets will NOT be sold separately.

They can only be purchased with package A.

The Discount packages on sale are:

PACKAGE A: Includes ALL of the above .... \$60.00

PACKAGE B: Same as A

except NO Banquet ..... \$40.00

PACKAGE C: Fri./Sat. Events

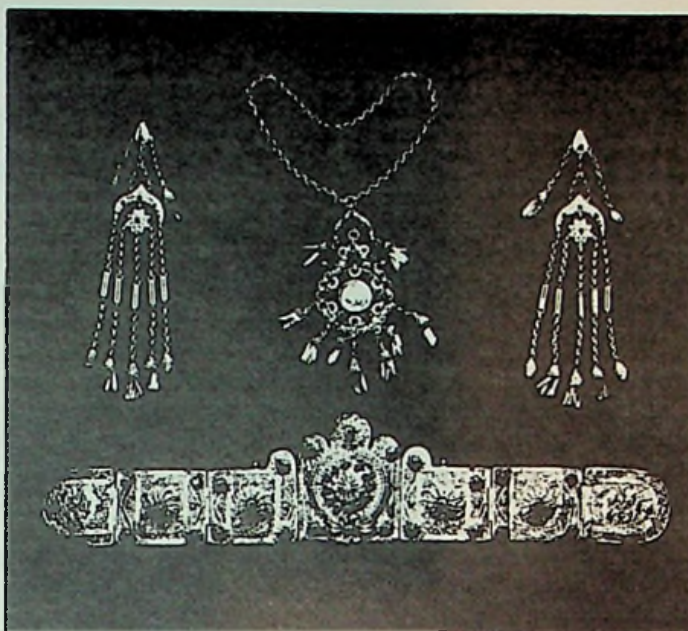
(NO Banquet) ..... \$35.00

PACKAGE D: All Dances/

Entertainment Rooms only ..... \$25.00

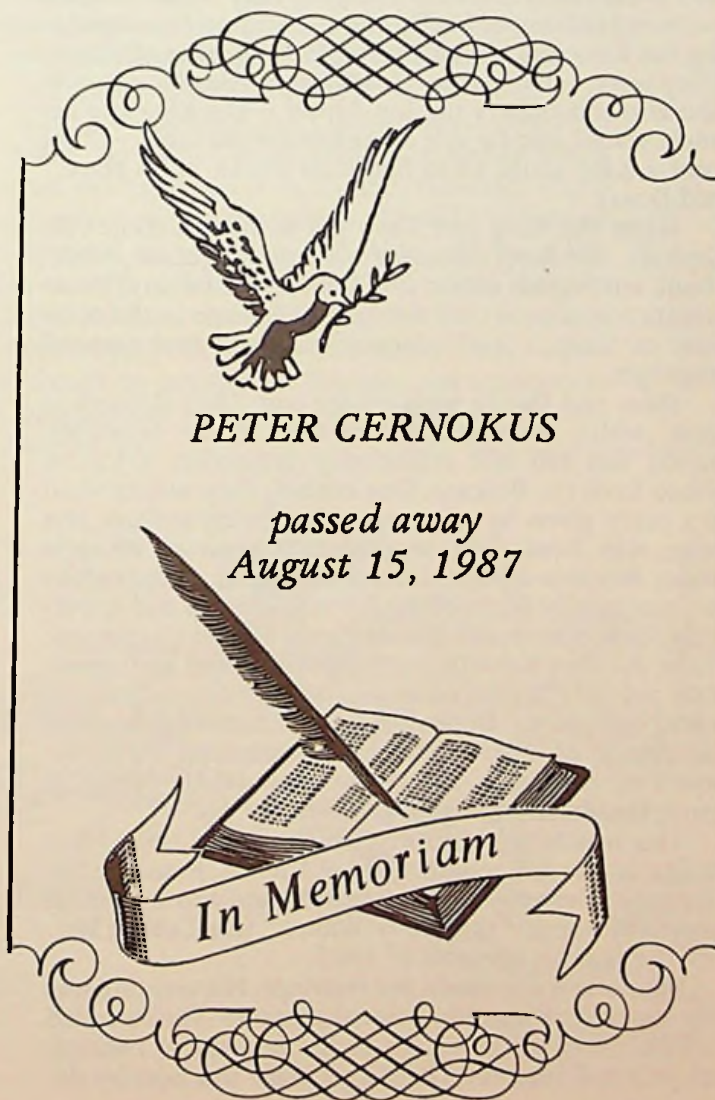
Finally, though the 1987 Tamburitza Extravaganza officially ends Saturday, the San Jose hosts, the Veseli Seljaci, will sponsor a chicken barbecue and picnic at Napredak Hall on Sunday, October 11 beginning at 12:00 p.m.

Admission is \$7.00 and includes a delicious chicken dinner and music all afternoon. Many of the orchestras are staying for the picnic, so the music will go on and on. Join us and experience an unforgettable weekend. See you at the 1987 Tamburitza Extravaganza in San Jose, California!



*Women's jewellery and belt now in the Titograd Museum*

*from the book Treasures of Yugoslavia  
recently donated to Watsonville Public Library by YACO*





## SOME VIVID MEMORIES ABOUT THE OPERETTA "MERRY WIDOW" AND PRINCE DANILO.

The following was submitted by Nicholas A. Kovacevich. The author, Nikola Radovich, lives in Carmel and was born in Risan, Yugoslavia. We thank them both for sharing this material with us.

### *Author's Note:*

*This article is based on memories of my cousin (Mrs Dosa Katurich of San Francisco, native of Yugoslavia), which she shared with me during continuing conversations that I held with her. It is also based on historical facts.*

In 1899, Dosa, my cousin, was only four years old and today still remembers vividly when King Nikola of Montenegro visited her Uncle Andro (Andrew) in Risan. They had been friends for many years because Captain Andro organized King Nikola's little fleet after Montenegro had won the war of 1877/78 against Turkey. As a result of this victory, he was granted an access to the Adriatic Coast from Albania to Boka-Kotorska, which was then Austro-Hungarian territory.

From there the King used to come to Boka-Kotorska and Dosa remembers his yacht, "Zmay" (the Dragon) anchored in front of her Djurkovich's home. Accompanying the King was his Adjutant, Slavo, brother of Andro. They were welcomed by Dosa's father, Alex Djurkovich. She also remembers the big dinner — the King and her uncle seated side by side at the head of the table — ("not even a King could sit in her uncle's chair in his place," said Dosa).

When the King and Slavo got home to Cetinje (the Capital), the King discussed with the Adjutant, Slavo, about sending his oldest son, Danilo, age twenty, on an orientation trip to visit the west of Europe in the company of Slavo, a well-educated man who spoke several languages.

Slavo and Danilo went on the trip. They stopped in Paris, which attracted nobles from many countries. Danilo was tall and remarkably attractive, a Crown Prince from the Balkans. One evening they were invited to a party given by a young widow living in Paris. Her name was Sonia, the wealthiest woman of Moravia (today Moravia is part of Czechoslovakia). At the parties she was usually besieged by fortune hunters and apparently there was rivalry among them. Danilo was not one of the fortune hunters, but Sonia liked him and apparently jealousy developed among her hunters, and rumors among journalists. Depending on the rumors alone they had plenty of material to make reports to the newspapers of the world about the "scandalous doings of Prince Danilo and the Merry Widow."

This was an opportunity which proved to be most profitable for the composer from Vienna, Franz Lehar, who took advantage of the situation and wrote his most successful opera, "the Merry Widow" (die Lustige Witwe), the famous operetta of 1905.

Danilo was not ready for marriage. His vacation was only for cultural and educational purposes. The so-called "scandal" had disturbed his father because of Political and personal reasons. The King's pride was hurt by the



PRINCE DANILO

1871/1939

behavior of the journalists and Franz Lehar, and as soon as Danilo and Slavo arrived home, the Adjutant Slavo was dismissed from his duty to the King for not taking proper care of Prince Danilo.

Since Captain Slavo had previously served in Russia for a longer time on the Black Sea, and had been Commander of the frigate "Potemkin" in the War of 1877/78, he went back to serve the Tsar with the rank of Colonel in his Guard.

Then King Nikola took action against the composer, Franz Lehar. He felt that Lehar in another situation, if perhaps it were a question of a Hapsburg Prince, would not dare to take such advantage, and would not want to draw public attention to a young Prince's inexperience. For this reason the King took him to the International Court for damaging his kingdom's reputation and exposing his son to mockery on the stage. But the case was lost and this was not unexpected because relations between Austro-Hungary and Montenegro were bad and worsening after the War of 1877/78. Austro-Hungary did not like to see growing Russian influence in Mediterranean waters.

*Next month we will continue this material with a brief look at King Nikola and his family, plus a more detailed biography of the composer Franz Lehar.*



# About RAB

— a little information about last month's  
"Kalifornski Kontest" city.

The following note and sketches were sent to us by Professor Francis Violich, winner of the "Kalifornski Kontest" for September.

Dear Prijetelji at YACO,

I'm responding promptly to recognizing as *Rab*, the town on the cover of the *Kalifornski*. I had only to check my first impression that this surely was Rab, by looking at sketches I did there in 1981 and a small poster on my wall that I picked up on my first trip to Dalmatia in 1937. Having drawn the profiles of those towers several times I could recognize them even in the rather dark photo. Actually the main campanile was covered with scaffolding, but I left that off.

I've made reduced size copies in case you want to liven up the following issue with them. My visit there was part of the case studies of Dalmatian towns and villages I had done on Brac, Hvar, Korcula and Peljesac, using what I call an "urban reading" method. YACO members will know about that through several slide lectures I gave some years ago. I'm now writing on this and other aspects of Dalmatia's urban history and how this has led to a certain uniqueness of each urban place and a strong sense of identity with it on the part of those who live there, as well as those who have left. I hope for a book next year.

I hope to get into YACO meetings again, now that we have our house at La Selva off the rental market and kept for our own use. Puno pozdravi to my YACO friends.

Sincerely,  
Francis Violich

Prof. of City Planning and  
Landscape Architecture, Emeritus

PS — Looking at the photo again, I recall that early morning arrival — 5 a.m. — from Zadar and debarking onto the Obala while the entire town was still sound asleep and locked up tight. It's a wonderful place full of rich visual corners like a great old house, and with such a variety of views out to the harbors, the sea and pine-scented shores.

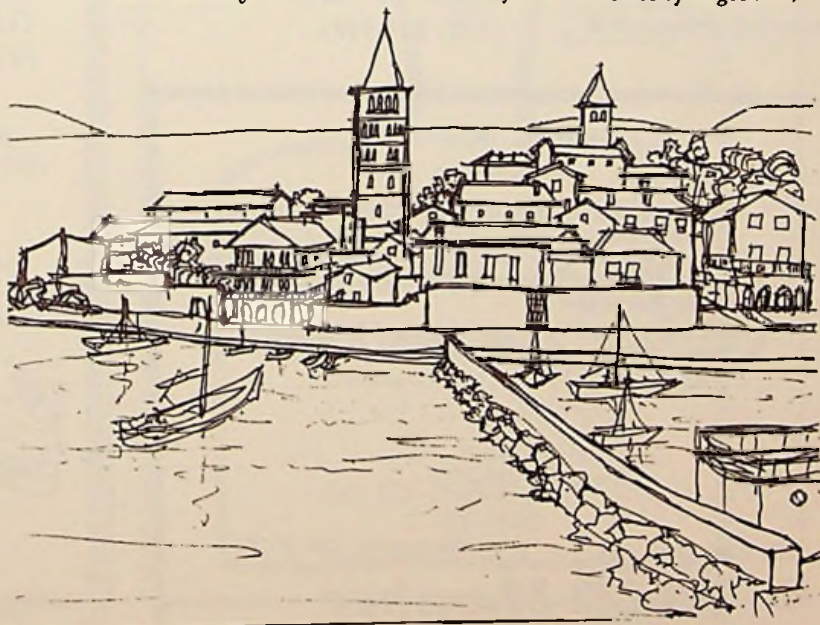


## Rab

A small town on an island bearing the same name.

The island passed under Roman sway towards the end of the republican period, a Roman fortified naval base established during the reign of Augustus. Few Roman remains have come to light. The island was joined to Byzantine Dalmatia, then claimed by the medieval Croatian state. From 1000 until the early 15th century Venetian and Hungarian-Croatian masters succeeded one another, Venice finally gaining control in 1409 and maintaining it until her fall. In the 10th and 11th centuries Rab enjoyed a certain amount of municipal autonomy like other medieval Dalmatian towns, most of its major architecture and art dating from this period (11th to the 15th centuries). Plague epidemics on two occasions in the mid-15th century decimated the population, and led to a decline so that in the 17th and 18th centuries Rab almost ceased to exist. The town did not begin to revive until the early 20th century, the tourist trade contributing largely, although the population of Rab town, now an important Adriatic resort — is only a fifth of what it was in the 14th century.

(— from "Treasures of Yugoslavia")







World-famous bronze figure of a dancer, 3rd Century B.C., known as the Tetovo Maenad.  
(Archaeological Museum, Skopje)

from the book "Treasures of Yugoslavia"  
recently donated to the Watsonville Public Library  
by YACO

## Yugoslav Radio Hour

REMEMBER to listen to the YUGOSLAV RADIO HOUR every Sunday at 9:35 a.m. on radio station KOMY, 1340 on the dial.

ANDY & ANN SOLDI are your hosts and bring you the finest in old favorites as well as the very latest music from Yugoslavia. They will be happy to play any special requests you might ask for whether it be for birthday, anniversary, or for any special announcement.



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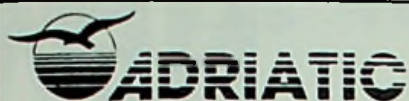
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makes oration,  
And he lies  
with snowy lilies  
On his brow.*

*For no matter how  
you shout it  
He won't really care  
about it.  
He won't know  
how many teardrops  
You have shed.*

*So if you think some praise  
is due him,  
Now's the time to  
slip it to him,  
For he cannot  
read his tombstone  
When he's dead.*

— Author Unknown

(submitted anonymously by a YACO member)





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# JOIN US TODAY

YACO was established in 1979 as a non-profit club without political or religious ties for the sole purpose of bringing together Yugoslavs and other interested persons to make known and to preserve our Slavic heritage. We are proud that among our membership we have families and individuals whose roots represent each region of present-day Yugoslavia, as well as non-slavic members who support the club's goals.

A year-around series of programs and events has proven an enjoyable way for YACO to provide its focus on Slavic heritage. Such activities include picnics, lectures and slide presentations on Yugoslavia and its historic culture, plus potluck and sit-down dinners. We also publish a monthly newsletter, THE KALIFORNSKI, full of interesting articles, recipes, and news of our area's Yugoslav community.

Our meetings (the first Sunday of each month) may include a potluck, special dinner, films, dancing, and raffles, plus we hold an annual July barbeque.

Won't you accept our invitation to join us? We're sure you'll soon find YACO to be one of your favorite clubs.

Our dues are as follows:

Single membership ..... \$12  
Family membership ..... \$18

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Husband: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Yugoslav Background: \_\_\_\_\_

Children under 18 included in Family Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

# ATTENTION:

THE KALIFORNSKI is your publication. If there is anything in particular that you would like to see in any future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. If you have any subjects relating to Yugoslav heritage or about Yugoslavs, here or abroad, that you would like to share or see published in this newsletter, please let us know. We would appreciate your input in publishing this newsletter each month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us:

Dale Skillicorn and  
Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn  
c/o Rapid Offset Printing  
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## SUGGESTED TOPICS:

1. Trips by YACO members
2. Visitors from the Old Country
3. Newspaper or magazine articles about Yugoslavia or Yugoslavs, local or abroad
4. Weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, or special celebrations by YACO members
5. Civic or cultural contributions by Yugoslavs
6. Yugoslav recipes
7. Yugoslav songs, poetry or stories
8. Special family traditions for holidays, etc.
9. Yugoslav stories for children
10. Anything you think might be of interest to YACO members

## NEW DEADLINE

A new DEADLINE has been set for the 10th of each month so that we might get the paper out even earlier. It seems that our members out of Watsonville are not receiving their KALIFORNSKI early enough to plan on attending any of our programs. Members in Watsonville receive their copies at least two days after mailing so it seems to be a problem with a hold up at the post office. If I don't have the information in time, I will not be able to publish it until the next issue. REMEMBER to send me any information by the 10th of each month.



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## No Paper?

If someone you know is not receiving the KALIFORNSKI, please let us know. We publish this for you, the membership, and would like each of you to have the opportunity to keep in touch with YACO. Contact us at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076 - (408) 724-2900.

Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

# CALENDAR

- Sept. 27 Be sure to come to the Watsonville Days (Apple Festival) Bazaar at Callaghan Park and support the YACO Kabasica Booth.
- Oct. 4 Meeting (7 p.m.) There will be a 30-minute VCR tape on Yugoslavia in english.

**NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!**

Due to lack of expressed interest and participation, the YugoFest previously scheduled for Oct.4th had to be cancelled.

**SHAME! SHAME! SHAME!**

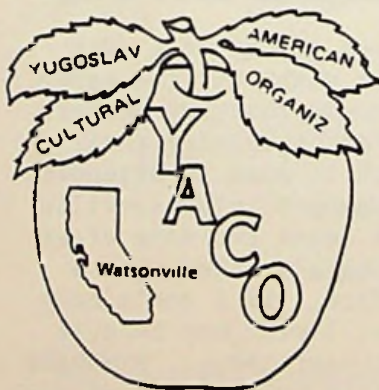
- Nov. 1 Meeting (7pm) Election of Officers. Refreshments, Program. V.F.W. Hall.
- Dec. 6 Christmas Dinner (6pm) Reservations only, 150 tickets. Roast Pork, Potatoes, Onions, and all the trimmings. \$10 adults, \$5 children. Martin Santich.



## YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

P.O. Box 226

Watsonville. CA. 95077



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